1: Krasheninnikov N-5 (1736-40) 1764 Kamchadal

ing; ſometimes they uſe a liquor made of a large muſhroom, with which the *Ruſſians* kill flies. This they prepare with the juice of epilobium, or *French* willow.

The firſt ſymptom of a man's being affected with this liquor is a trembling in all his joints, and in half an hour he begins to rave as if in a fever; and is either merry or melancholy mad, according to his peculiar conſtitution. Some jump, dance, and ſing; others weep, and are in terrible agonies, a ſmall hole appearing to them as a great pit, and a ſpoonful of water as a lake: but this is to be underſtood of thoſe who uſe it to exceſs; for taken in a ſmall quantity it raiſes their ſpirits, and makes them briſk, courageous, and chearful.

It is obſerved, whenever they have eaten of this plant, they maintain that, whatever fooliſh things they did, they only obeyed the commands of the muſhroom: however, the uſe of it is certainly ſo dangerous, that unleſs they were well looked after it would be the deſtruction of numbers of them. The *Kamtſchadales* do not much care to relate theſe drunken frolicks, and perhaps the continual uſe of it renders it leſs dangerous to them. One of our Coſſacks reſolved to eat of this muſhroom in order to ſurpriſe his comrades; and this he actually did, but it was with great difficulty they preſerved his life. Another of the inhabitants of *Kamtſchatka*, by the uſe of this muſhroom, imagined that he was upon the brink of hell ready to be thrown in, and that the muſhroom ordered him to fall upon his knees, and make a full confeſſion of all the ſins he could remember, which he did before a great number of his comrades, to their no ſmall diverſion. It is related, that a ſoldier of the garriſon having eaten a little of this muſhroom, walked a great way without any fatigue, but at laſt, having taken too great a quantity, he died. My interpreter drank ſome of this juice without knowing of it, and became ſo mad, that it was with difficulty that we kept him from ripping open his